



The Hour

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BUND ATTEMPTS TO ANSWER HOUR CHARGES

Deutsche Weckruf Pleads "Not Anti-Semitic" And at Same Time Proves It Is

On October 12 The Hour revealed that the German-American Bund, consequent to Fritz Kuhn's imprisonment, had decided to modify its anti-Semitic propagandizing, in an effort to present a more "American" appearance. Wilbur V. Keegan, soft-spoken counsel for the Nazi Gang, was the strongest exponent for the elimination of open anti-Semitism from the Bund program.

But Keegan was unable to get his way completely, as The Hour pointed out. In the case of The Free American and Deutsche Weckruf und Beobachter, it was necessary to make a compromise. The editors of this official Bund organ, who had been so devoted to the cause of Jew-baiting, could not picture themselves entirely sacrificing their favorite theme. The concession was therefore made that future attacks on the Jews would be relegated to the German-language section of the paper, while the English section would be kept free of such vilification.

Latest Bundite "Defense"

The current issue of the Deutsche Weckruf features an indignant denial of the truth of The Hour story. The denial appears in the form of a boxed editorial, which takes up the two center columns of the front page, under the heading: "NOT ANTI-SEMITIC." Making reference to the Jewish Examiner, which was one of the papers that reprinted our expose, the editorial opens as follows:

"A recent issue of the Jewish Examiner (October 18, 1940), to which our attention has been called, says that the Bund practises 'a shabby ruse to cloak anti-Semitism.' It falsely charges that the Bund entered into a compromise agreement that 'no anti-Semitism (should appear) in the English-printed section of the paper (THE FREE AMERICAN), the old anti-Jewish policy to continue in the German language pages ... All articles in English are devoid of reference to the Jewish people. The articles in German are violently anti-Semitic.' ...

"This publication is not anti-Semitic and no instructions have been issued to avoid reference to the Jewish people in the English section but to play it up in the German part."

Evidence and More Evidence

In its original article on the subject, The Hour presented concrete evidence of the validity of its charges against the Bund and the Deutsche Weckruf. We made specific reference to recent issues of the Bund publication which prove that the paper has of late been partitioned into a German section which attacks the Jews and an English section which does not even mention them.

With characteristic cynicism, the latest issue of the Deutsche Weckruf, the very issue which claims the paper is not anti-Semitic, makes a point of attacking the Jewish people. Typical is a lengthy article entitled, "Why Germany is Going to Win this War." The article, purporting to be a letter written from Berlin by one Dr. F. Roscoe ("an American traveling and studying in Europe"), includes such statements as these:

"To begin with, Hitler is the man of the hour and the prophet of the 20th century. All over the world -- young and old, are reading about him -- and if only they could know the REAL TRUTH about this man's teachings, practises, power and philosophies, and see the stupendous results brought about by him for his Gentile people! No doubt the world will recognize all this in time, even though the Sinister Inventors have prevented the truth from reaching the Gentile people of America, England, France and other countries.

"Hitler first brought internal order, love and peace to his people in Germany, uniting both Protestants and Catholics as Gentiles ... He not only teaches to 'love thy neighbor as thyself,' but to 'love thy Gentile-neighbor MORE than thyself.' ...

"And when it [the war] is all over and we find out why we were burnt again, the cry will not be 'God save the King of England,' but 'God help the Jews in America.'"

Apparently, the Deutsche Weckruf hopes to prove in this issue that it is not being partial, that it is not limiting its Jew-baiting to the German section. The anti-Semitic article, from which the above passage is quoted, is given a very prominent position in the English section. The Bundites are not exactly subtle.

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BEAUTY UNDER THE NAZIS

Facts In Review, the smartly printed Nazi propaganda bulletin which is issued weekly by the German Library of Information, New York City has recently been describing at length the "beauty" that has come into the German worker's life under the Third Reich. The front page of the October 28 issue, for example, carries a large picture entitled "Beauty Enters Everyday Life." The photograph depicts what is supposedly a dining hall for workers. Prominently displayed on every table is a vase of flowers. The picture is accompanied by this caption:

"The realization that congenial and healthy leisure time contributes not only to the welfare of the nation but also to the efficiency of production, has impelled many German industries to institute pleasant recreation halls and dining quarters for their employees."

The caption refers the reader to an article, "The New Spirit In German Industry," which tells in detail how the Nazis have initiated a movement called "Beauty of Work." This movement, the article points out, has assured "happy labor relations" by managing "throughout Germany to make workshops cleaner and more appealing" and by giving the German worker all sorts of other "advantages" unknown before Hitler came to power. Among the new "advantages" named is the "happy collaboration between the employer and employee." This "harmonious cooperation" is compared with that of an affectionate family. The article proudly observes that under this joyous relationship, strikes have become "symbols of a by-gone age."

The deeper implications of this campaign of beautification were treated in almost reverential tones in a previous issue of Facts In Review, which declared,

"In Germany today the organization 'Schoenheit der Arbeit', ('Beauty of Work') devotes its efforts to improving the spiritual and psychological aspects of factory life by introducing beauty and comfort into the Work Shop. The 'Work Shop Beautiful' is an important contribution by modern Germany to the social progress of our age."

Naturally, these articles on the beauty of German working conditions make no mention of such mundane matters as the amount of wages paid and the number of hours worked.

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PROPAGANDA FROM PENNSYLVANIA

The last set of bulletins from Robert Edward Edmondson, prolific fascist pamphleteer of Stoddartsville, Pennsylvania, was accompanied by a "Special Pre-Election Notice." The notice stated that the Edmondson Agency after the first week in November, will suspend regular weekly publication and mailing of bulletins until the first of next year. The announcement explains that,

"Following all recent national elections there has been a pronounced cessation of Jew-exposure bulletin distribution by individuals and others. This is naturally intensified by end-of-year holidays."

Emphasizing that this is only a temporary suspension of activity and that after "the turn of the year" his work will be renewed with unabated vigor, Edmondson included with the notice a list of his "Jew-Exposure Patriotic Bulletins," now for sale singly or in quantity lots. The titles embrace the entire alphabet, with the exception of two letters. In all, there are two hundred and seventy-three different pro-fascist anti-Semitic bulletins named. Characteristic titles are "Americans Are Democracy Dupes," "America For Americans -- Not Jews," "American Vigilanteism Is Patriotic," "C.I.O. Captures the Press," "'Democracy' Not in U. S. Constitution," "Jew-Free Germany Recovers," "U. S. Is Alien Ruled," and "Salute to The Flag Is Jewish."

In addition to the bulletins, Edmondson lists various anti-democratic pamphlets and booklets which he is distributing. These also are offered at reduced prices in quantity lots,

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THE BACKGROUND OF PROFESSOR TANSILL

On November 9 the Brooklyn Tablet carried an article under the headline, "Dr. Tansill To Open St. Joan of Arc's Forum." The article relates that Charles Callan Tansill, professor of history at Fordham University, will be the first speaker of the "popular forum series" to be conducted this fall under the auspices of the St. Joan of Arc's Church, and the Holy Name Society, Jackson Heights, Long Island. The professor's subject, observes the news item, will be "After The Armistice." In describing Dr. Tansill's talents as a lecturer, the article states:

"Professor Tansill was the guest speaker at the annual Communion-Breakfast of the society last Trinity Sunday at the Hotel Roosevelt. At that time he delivered a splendid address on the international relationships of the United States, which was published in THE TABLET. ..."

Tansill and the Nazis

The Hour has on file some interesting information about this professor and "popular" lecturer. According to our data, Dr. Charles Callan Tansill visited Germany in 1936 as a guest lecturer for the Nazi Government. While there he attended the National Socialist Party Congress at Nuremberg; he was one of the fourteen guests of honor. He had the privilege of meeting in conferences with the Fuehrer. Upon returning to the United States, Dr. Tansill issued such statements as, "Ninety-eight percent of the German people are solidly behind Hitler and are satisfied with his program, for he put the country back on its feet," and "Germany stands to do work as the strongest bulwark in Europe against the spread of communism and war." Since his visit to Germany, Dr. Charles Callan Tansill has had a record of pro-Nazi speeches and articles. He has been a most useful propagandist for the cause of the Third Reich.

Perhaps The Tablet was unaware of these facts. Perhaps it considers them unimportant,